

# **Graywater Application for Army Installations – Introducing a New Guidance Document**

**Environment, Energy & Sustainability Symposium**

Denver, CO

4-7 May 2009

**Richard J. Scholze**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

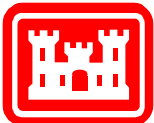
Construction Engineering Research Laboratory (CERL)

Champaign, IL

**Malcolm McLeod**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

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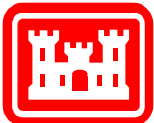
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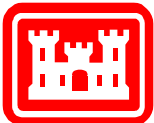
# What Are PWTBs?

- **Public Works Technical Bulletins**
- **Sponsored by USACE HQ**
- **Variety of Subjects**
- **Available through Whole Building Design Guide**
- **Accessible at:**
  - [http://www.wbdg.org/ccb/browse\\_cat.php?o=31&c=215](http://www.wbdg.org/ccb/browse_cat.php?o=31&c=215)
- **May have to use Alternate Path – CCB, Army/COE, then PWTB**



# **PWTB Contents**

- **Definitions**
- **Regulatory Review**
- **Overview of Graywater**
- **Types of Systems**
- **Potential Military Installation Applications**
- **Summary**



# Military Installation Water Drivers

## Water Resources

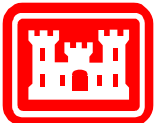
- Increasing Water Quantity and Quality Concerns
- Drought
- Climate Change

## Legislative and Executive Drivers

- Clean Water Act
- Energy Policy Acts
- Executive Order 13423 - All Installations Must Reduce Consumption 2% Annually

## Defense/Army Strategies and Policies

- Strategic Plan for Army Sustainability
- Army Strategy for the Environment
- 2005 Army Energy and Campaign Plan for Installations
- Installation Sustainability Plans - Water Conservation Goals
- LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) USGBC
- Federal Best Management Practices



# Decreasing Supply

- Over Withdrawal
- Climate Change
- Cost and Financing
- Quality Degradation

"I wish to make it clear to you, there is not sufficient water to irrigate all the lands which could be irrigated, and only a small portion can be irrigated. I tell you, gentlemen, you are piling up a heritage of conflict."

-- Maj. John Wesley Powell, 1893



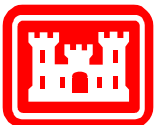
*Rocky Mount Reservoir, NC (2007)*



*Lake Mead, 2003  
(Las Vegas Valley Water District)*



*Lynn Betts, NRCS*

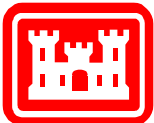


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# **FEMP Best Management Practices**

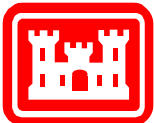
- 1. Water Management Planning**
- 2. Information and Education Programs**
- 3. Distribution System Audits, Leak Detection and Repair**
- 4. Water Efficient Landscaping**
- 5. Water Efficient Irrigation**
- 6. Toilets and Urinals**
- 7. Faucets and Showerheads**
- 8. Boiler/Steam Systems**
- 9. Single-Pass Cooling Equipment**
- 10. Cooling Tower Management**
- 11. Commercial Kitchen Management**
- 12. Laboratory/Medical equipment**
- 13. Other Water Use**
- 14. Alternate Water Sources**



# Other Water Use/Alternate Water Sources Options

*What can be done to increase available supply?  
How can we efficiently use what's available?*

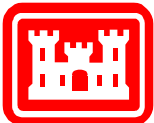
- Water Reuse
- Desalination
- Produced Water
- Rainwater Harvesting
- Ground Water Recharge
- **GRAYWATER REUSE**
- Sewer Mining





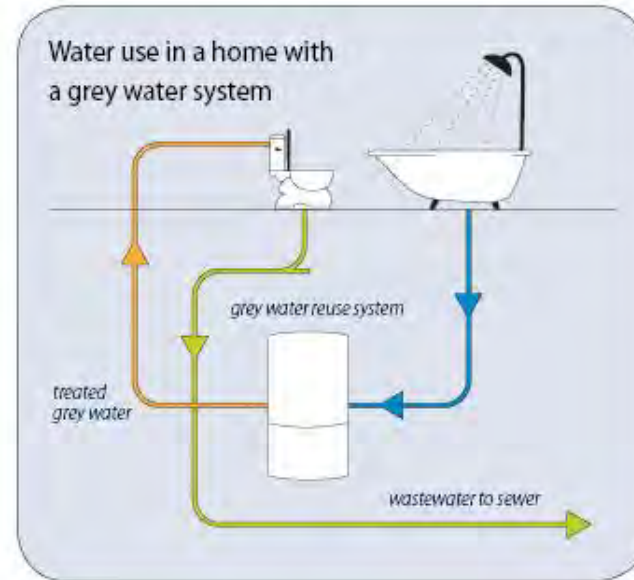
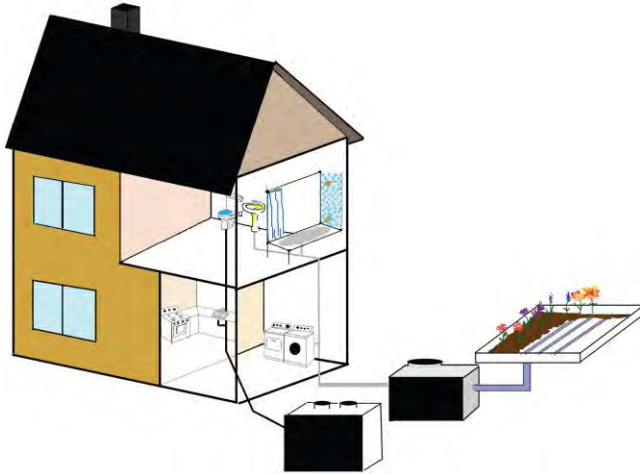
# **Army Policy**

- **Where LCC effective, reclaimed or treated recycled water will be used for irrigation and other non-potable uses.**
- **Gray-water or untreated effluent from laundry, dishwashing, and personal hygiene/bathing will not be recycled or reused as part of a United States Green Building Council (USGBC) sanctioned program for a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) credit without approval from IMCOM.**



# Definitions

**Graywater = Greywater = Gray Water = Grey Water**

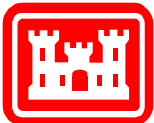


**Blackwater**

**Toilet, Kitchen Wastewater**

**Reclaimed Water**

**Wastewater Treated to High Standards at Municipal Treatment Facilities, Delivered to Customers via "Purple Pipe" System**

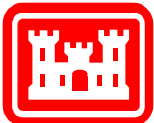


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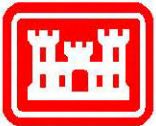
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# History

- **Long History in Arid Parts of the U.S.**
  - **Common in Rural Areas**
  - **Technically Still Illegal in Many Places**
  - **May Get 40 Gallons per day per Person**
  - **Technology to Use – Highly Variable**
    - **Rinse Water from Washer for Next Load**
    - **Direct Discharge to Irrigation**
    - **Or Complex Treatment**
    - **Living Systems – Water Plants and Sand Filtration**
    - **Often Minimal Treatment then Underground Irrigation System**
- **Many Commercial Package Plants**
  - **Filtered, Disinfected Product – Fairly Expensive**



# What People Think

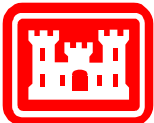


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# Graywater Sources and Percent of Household Flow

Source	Percent	Category
Toilet	40	Blackwater
Kitchen waste	10	Blackwater
Misc	5	Graywater
Laundry	15	Graywater
Bath/Shower	30	Graywater



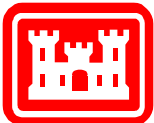
# Quality of Graywater

- **Biological**
  - Microorganisms
- **Chemical**
  - Dissolved Salts – sodium, nitrogen, phosphates, chloride
  - Others – oils, fats, soap, detergents
- **Physical**
  - Soil
  - Lint



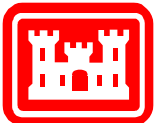
# **Compared to Combined Wastewater**

- **Lower in BOD**
- **Lower in Suspended Solids**
- **Lower in Nitrogen**
- **Lower in Phosphorous**
- **More Alkaline**
- **Higher in Salts**



# **Controversy?**

- **Why? Potential Health Threat**
- **No Cases Reported**
- **No National Guidelines**
- **More States Becoming Proactive in Encouraging Use**
- **Lobbying at Federal Level for Recognition for Use**
- **Guidelines Vary Internationally**





# California Greywater Policy Data and Calculations

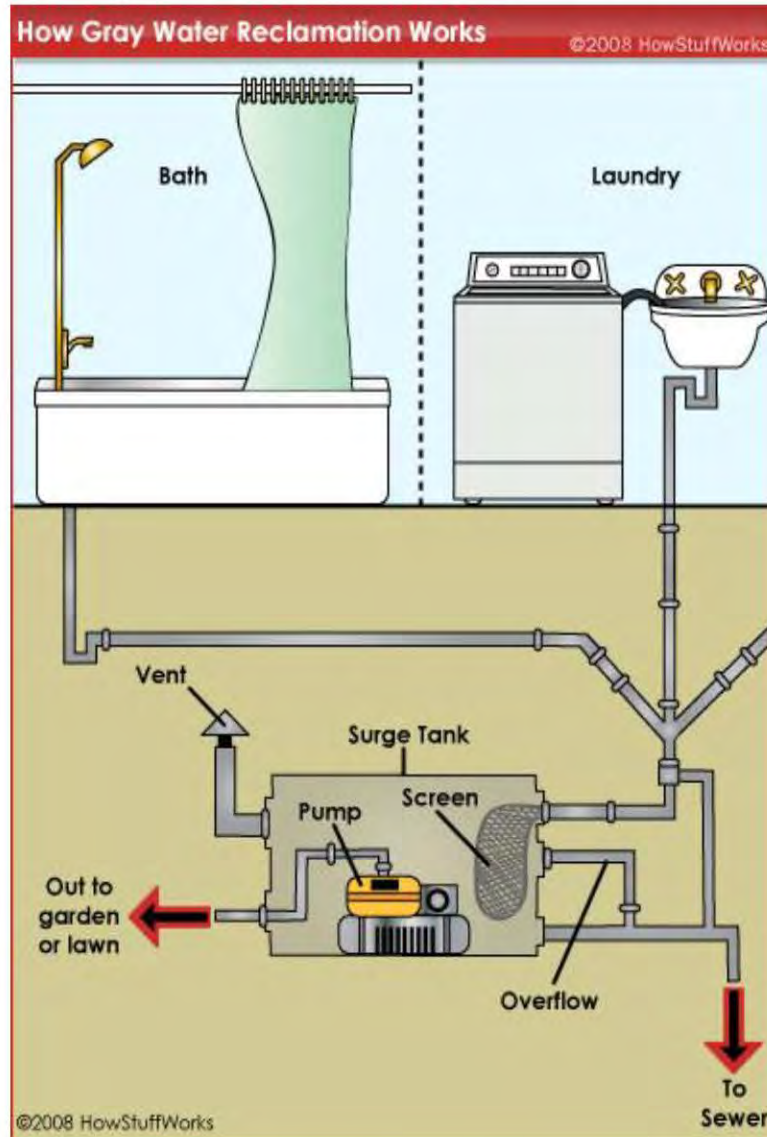
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Datum	What	Date	Source	URL, comment
<b>Greywater system exposure in California</b>				
36,553,215	Population of California	2007	US census bureau	<a href="http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/06000.html">http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/06000.html</a>
13.9%	Households with greywater systems	1999	Soap and Detergent Manufacturer's Association Graywater	p. 14 <a href="http://www.sdascience.org/docs/Graywater_Habits_&amp;_Extrapolation_from_1999.pdf">http://www.sdascience.org/docs/Graywater_Habits_&amp;_Extrapolation_from_1999.pdf</a>
5,080,897	Greywater users	2009	Calculation; population * percent greywater users	extrapolation from 1999
2.87	People per household	2000	US census bureau	<a href="http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/06000.html">http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/06000.html</a>
1,770,347	Greywater systems	2009	Calculation; greywater users / people per household	(this assumes the proportion of greywater use has not changed)
<b>System user years-CA</b>				
5,080,897	Greywater users	2009	from above	
10.0%	Households with greywater systems	1950	Estimate; in general, older infrastructure has more greywater use, approaching 100% with rural 70+ year old buildings	
10,586,223	Population of California	1950	US Census Bureau	<a href="http://www.census.gov/dmd/www/resaport/states/california.pdf">www.census.gov/dmd/www/resaport/states/california.pdf</a>
1,058,622	Greywater users	1950	Calculation; population * percent greywater users	
3,069,760	Average number of greywater users	1949-2009	average of 2009 and 1950 greywater users	
60	Years from 1949-2009		calculation	
184,185,576	System-user-years of greywater exposure, not counting neighbors		calculation; average greywater users * years	
<b>Greywater system exposure in United States</b>				
303,824,640	Population of US	2008	CIA estimate	<a href="https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/p">https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/p</a>
7.0%	Households with greywater systems	1999	Soap and Detergent Manufacturer's Association Graywater	<a href="http://www.sdascience.org/index.php?option=com_content&amp;view=article&amp;id=1234&amp;Itemid=1">http://www.sdascience.org/index.php?option=com_content&amp;view=article&amp;id=1234&amp;Itemid=1</a>
21,267,725	Greywater users	2009	Calculation; population * percent greywater users	extrapolation from 1999
2.59	People per household	2000	US census bureau	<a href="http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/06000.html">http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/06000.html</a>
8,211,477	Greywater systems	2009	Calculation; greywater users / people per household	extrapolation from 1999
<b>System user years-US</b>				
21,267,725	Greywater users	2009	from above	
10.0%	Households with greywater systems	1950	Estimate; in general, older infrastructure has more greywater use, approaching 100% with rural 70+ year old buildings	
152,271,417	Population of US	1950	NPG historical data	<a href="http://www.npg.org/facts/us_historical_pops.htm">http://www.npg.org/facts/us_historical_pops.htm</a>
15,227,142	Historic greywater users	1950	Calculation; population * percent greywater users	
18,247,433	Average number of greywater users	1949-2009	average of 2009 and 1950 greywater users	
60	Years from 1949-2009		calculation	
1,094,845,995	System-user-years of greywater exposure, not counting neighbors		calculation; average greywater users * years	
<b>Reports of graywater-transmitted illness in US</b>				
0	Reports of greywater-transmitted illness		18 years of greywater policy discussion, Letter from CDC	
400	People struck by lightning in the US, per year	2008	NOAA lightning safety	<a href="http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/medical.htm">http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/medical.htm</a>
344	People drowned in bathtubs	2005	National safety council	<a href="http://www.nsc.org/research/odds.aspx">http://www.nsc.org/research/odds.aspx</a>
<b>Greywater system permit compliance rate in California</b>				
1,770,347	Greywater systems	2009	from above, extrapolation from 1999	(this assumes the proportion of greywater use has not changed)
200	Permitted greywater systems	1992-2009	ReWater Systems, 70±, Bill Wilson + Kevin 20±, Ted Adams, 5± Art Ludwig, 2±...rest are a guess. I'd say lower bound is	
8,852	Ratio of unpermitted to permitted systems		calculation	
0.011%	Percent of permitted systems		calculation	
<b>Reportable GW Diseases, Potential &amp; Reported</b>				
	Disease	Total Cases in 2007	Est. 60 Years Cumulative Cases	Cases Linked to Graywater
	Cholera	7	288	0
	Cryptosporidiosis	11,170	502,650	0
	E. coli, Shiga toxin-producing (STEC)	4,847	218,115	0
	Giardiasis	19,417	873,765	0
	Hepatitis A	2,979	134,055	0
	Legionellosis	2,716	122,220	0
	Salmonellosis	47,995	2,159,775	0
	Shiga toxin-producing E. coli (STEC)	19,758	889,110	0
	Vibriosis (non-cholera Vibrio species infections)	447	4,920,093	0
	TOTALS	123,713		0

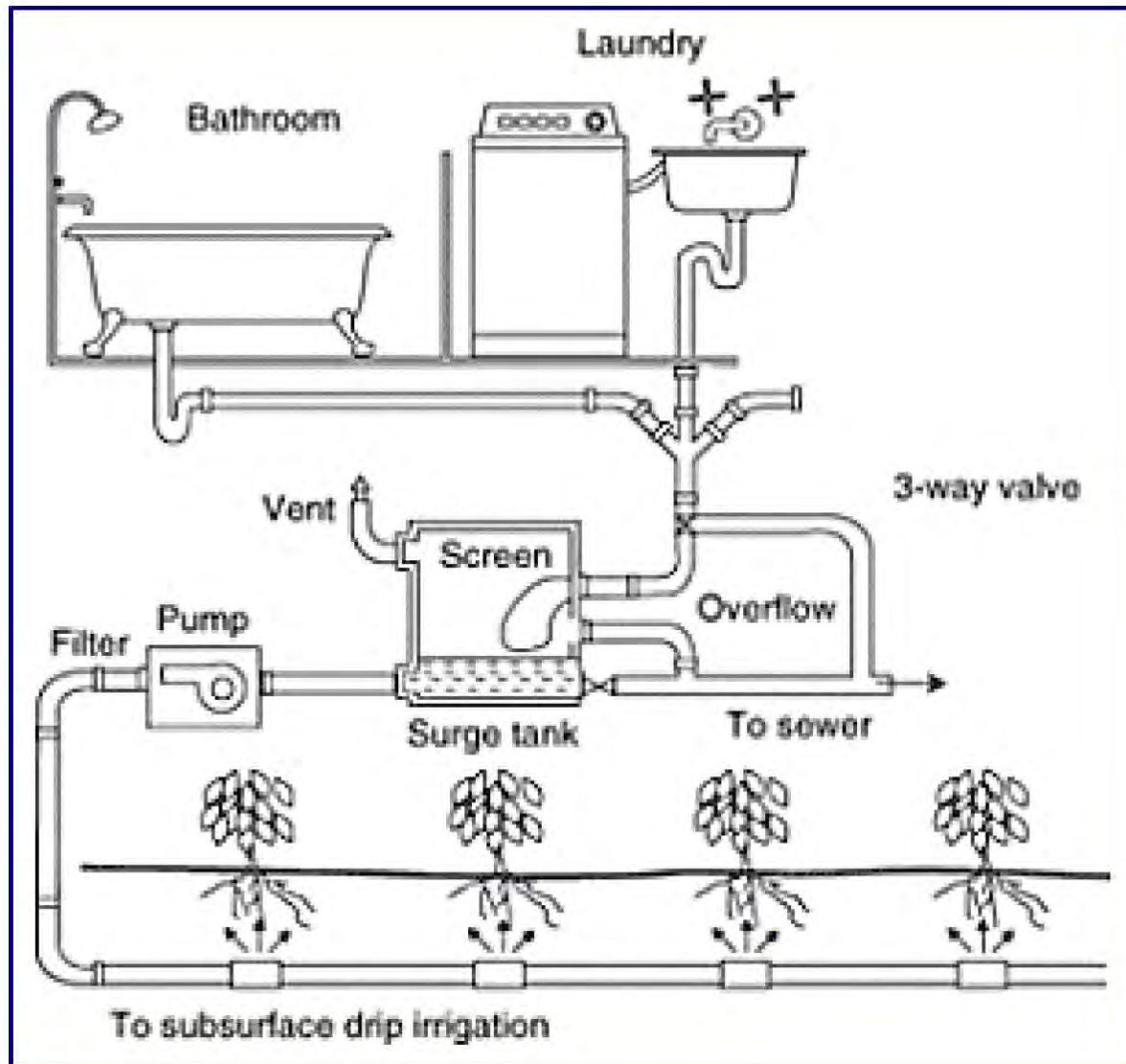
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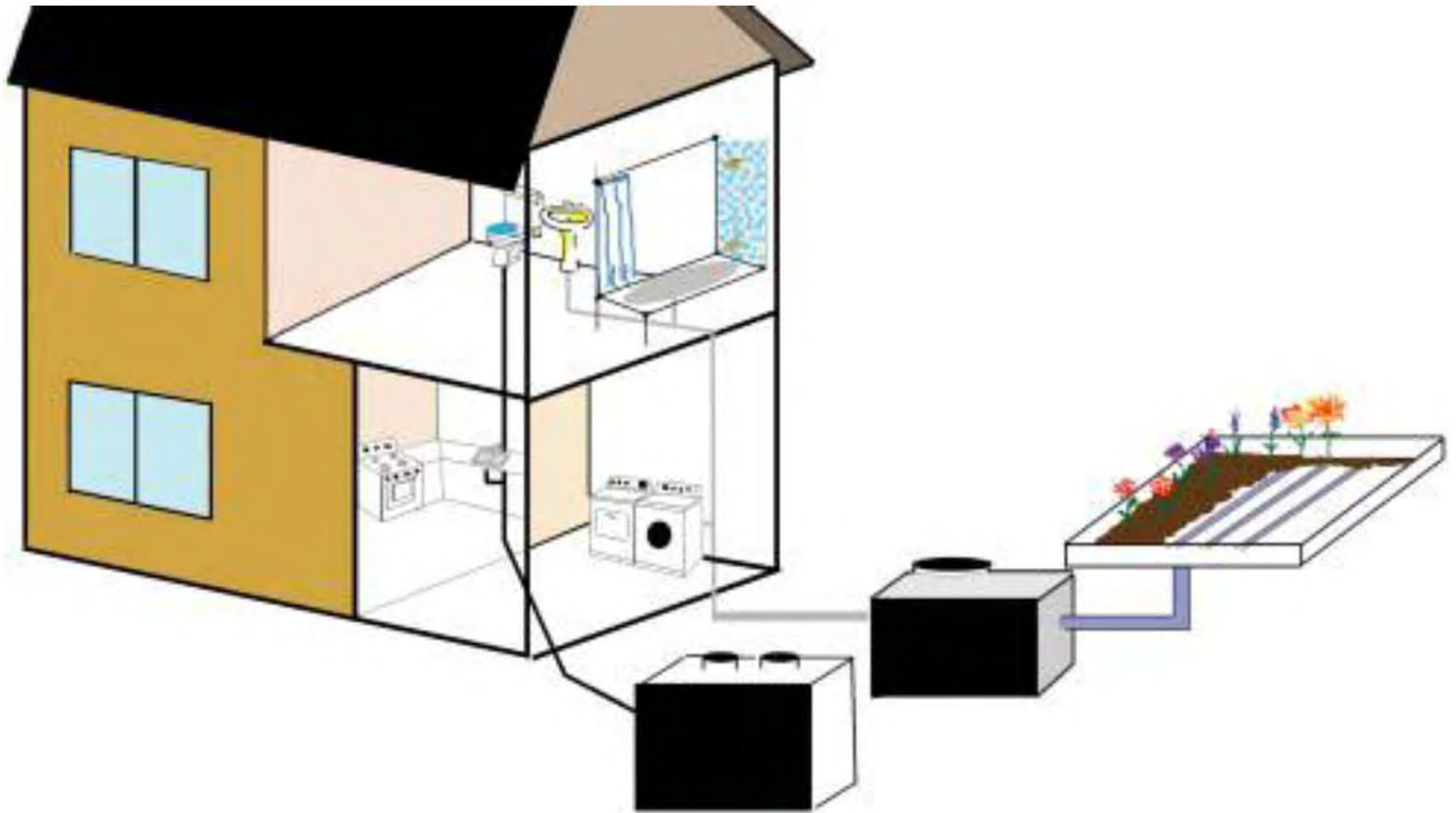
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# Graywater Treatment







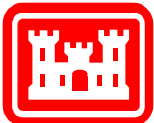


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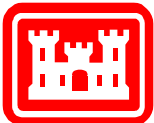
# Using Graywater

- **Advantages**
  - **Saves Water**
  - **Less Discharge**
  - **Less Energy and Chemical Use**
  - **Recovery of Nutrients**
  - **Reduction of Hydraulic Load to Existing Systems**
- **Disadvantages**
  - **More Costly**
  - **May Decrease Flow to Sewage Plant**
  - **Potential for Spreading Disease Through Human Contact if not Properly Handled or Treated**
  - **Damage to Soil Long-term?**
  - **Potential Odors in Surge or Storage Tanks**



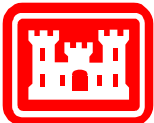
# When to Use

- **Best in New Construction**
- **Estimate Graywater Production**
- **Office –Probably Not**
- **Barracks – Potentially**
- **Cost-Effective? Water Restrictions?**
- **Determine Applications – End Use**
- **Separate Systems**



# Other Concerns

- **Fixture Flushing**
- **Cooling Towers**
- **Irrigation**
  
- **Regulations – Constantly Evolving**
- **States Vary**
- **Plumbing Codes Vary**
- **Usually Use for Sub-surface or Drip Irrigation**



# Graywater Reuse Opportunities



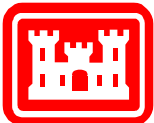
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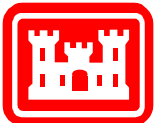
# Systems

- **AZ Regulations for Surface Application**
  - Settling Tanks and Sand Filters
  - Sump Surge Tank
  - Filter Lint and Hair
  - Pump to Toilet or Landscape
  - State Review of Design and Construction
  - Settling or Holding Tank, Filtration, Disinfection if Applied to Surface Vegetation
  - Discourages Direct Discharge of Wash Machine to Outside Surface
  - Monitoring
- **CA Requires Surge Tank, No Holding or Settling, Then Drip Irrigation**
  - Local Control, Can Vary Requirements
- **Other States Vary**
  - Some Require Use of Separate Septic Tanks Before Use
- **Changes Coming – Becoming More Liberal**

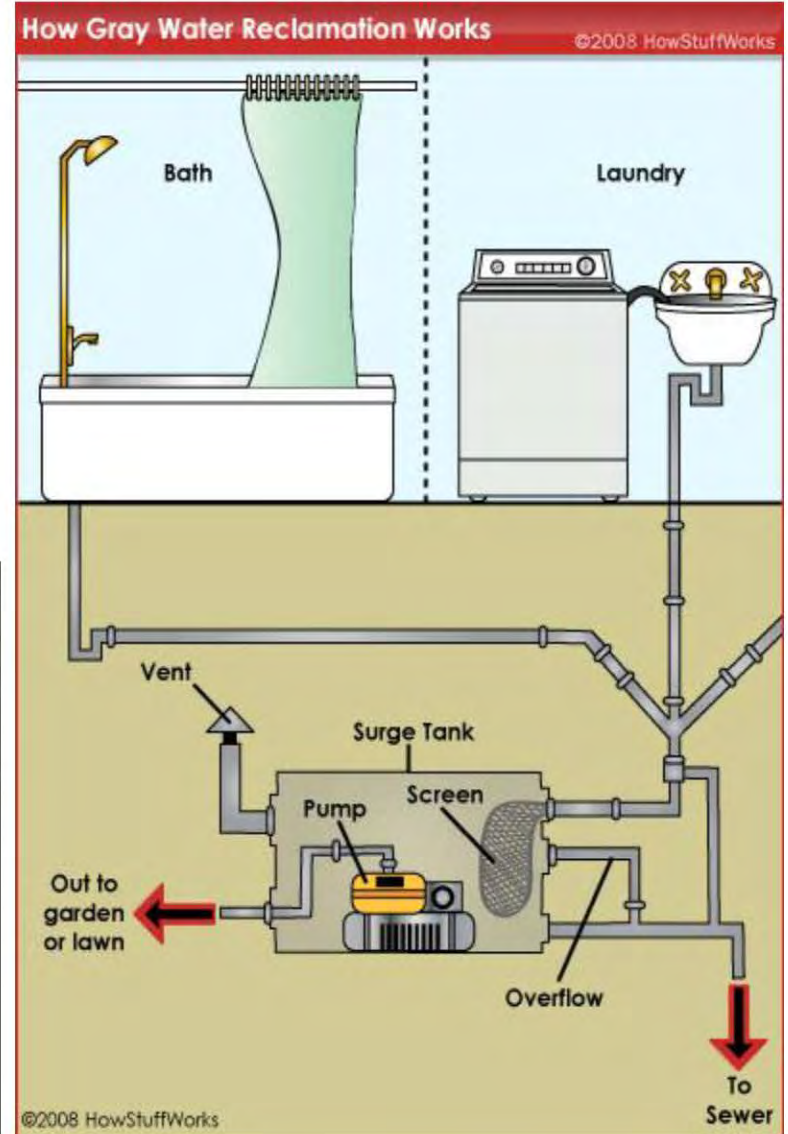


# Example

- **Cochise County, AZ – “New residential construction shall have gray water lines plumbed to stub out, and be capped and clearly marked so as to permit the optional use of gray water by residents. The gray water plumbing must connect at least two plumbing fixtures, and preferably those that produce the most gray water without compromising the efficient evacuation of the black water pipes.”**
- **Applies to both single-family and multi-family and commercial projects.**

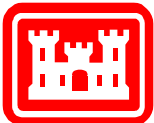


# Graywater Treatment



# **Future and Larger Scale Systems**

- **More Complex Operations**
- **Collect Large Quantities**
- **Blocks and Large Buildings have Dual Plumbing and Communal Systems with Treatment**
- **Combine with Other Sources Such as Rainwater**







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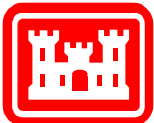


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# Summary

- Numerous Drivers Promote Water Efficiency
- Graywater Use - One Option to Using Less Potable Water
- Graywater Quantities Can Be Significant
- Treatment Processes Variable
- Health Considerations Important
- Regulations Changing
- Match Water Quality with End Use
- U.S. Playing Catch-up
- New/Emerging Technologies Should be Demonstrated/Adopted
- PWTB to be Available Final Early FY 2010





# Questions, Comments?

**Also:**

**I would like your help!**

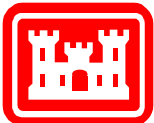
**Any information on graywater applications (planned or existing)  
at your installations or in your states would be greatly  
appreciated!**

**Also Rainwater Harvesting Applications.**

**Contact information or for additional information or resources**

**[Richard.J.Scholze@erdc.usace.army.mil](mailto:Richard.J.Scholze@erdc.usace.army.mil)**

**217-398-5590**



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